



MEDIA RELEASE

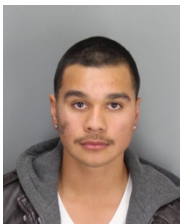
Milpas Street Graffiti Vandals Cited

SANTA BARBARA, CA – January 23, 2013

Eduardo Zavala, age 18, and a 17-year old male juvenile, both from Santa Barbara, were cited for vandalism after they were caught tagging the Milpas Street / Highway 101 overpass.

On January 21, 2013 at 10:27 p.m., Santa Barbara Police Department Officers Nathan Beltran and Tyler Larson were concluding a call for service at the Milpas Street roundabout when Officer Beltran noticed Zavala on the center median of 100 S. Milpas Street beneath the freeway. The officers watched as Zavala looked around furtively, produced a can of spray paint from his clothing, and then started to spray paint one of the columns of the overpass. As the officers quietly advanced they noticed Zavala's companion, the juvenile, also approach the scene on the center median and start spray painting. The vandals were so engrossed in their activity that the officers were able to get within 10 feet of them before being seen. Upon noticing the officers the two vandals fled. Zavala ran westbound but stopped when commanded to do so, and was taken into custody by Officer Larson. The juvenile ran westbound and then continued north, disobeying commands to stop and discarding his can of spray paint into a planter as he fled. Officer Beltran caught up to the juvenile on the west side of the Milpas Street roundabout and took him into custody. Both subjects were found to be in possession of additional spray paint cans and paint can nozzles. Examination of the scene revealed several freshly painted tagging monikers in green and gray spray paint on the columns of the overpass. Both subjects were transported to the Santa Barbara Police Department where they declined to make statements about the incident.

Zavala was issued a misdemeanor citation for vandalism, with an arraignment date of February 25, 2013, and was released from the Police Station. His juvenile companion was issued a misdemeanor citation for vandalism, possession of vandalism tools, resisting or delaying an officer, and destruction of evidence. He was released from the Police Station to his parents.



Zavala, Eduardo

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